



# MEDICINES TO TREAT AND PREVENT COVID-19

If you are at [high risk of getting very sick](#)<sup>±</sup> from COVID-19 contact a doctor right away - even if your symptoms are mild. If you test positive for COVID-19, you may be eligible for medicines that *treat* COVID-19 and help keep you out of the hospital. **Don't delay: the medicines work best when they are given as soon as possible after symptoms start.**

Talk to your doctor. If you need help finding a doctor, call 2-1-1. You can also call the Public Health Call Center **1- 833-540-0473**, open 7 days a week, 8:00 am – 8:30 pm.

There are 2 types of medicine available to prevent or treat COVID-19:

- **Antivirals** prevent viruses from "multiplying" in the body
- **Monoclonal antibodies** bind to the virus and help the body to get rid of it

There is currently *no* cost for these COVID-19 medications, but the treating facility may charge for administering the drug. Medicare and Medicaid cover *all* costs. If you have private insurance, check with your plan to see if it covers all costs. If you do not have insurance, ask the treatment facility if there are fees.

**Only take treatments prescribed by a health care provider.** People have been seriously harmed and even died after taking products not authorized for COVID-19. This includes products approved and/or prescribed for other uses.

## Medication to Treat COVID-19

These treatments are for people with mild to moderate symptoms. They help prevent severe symptoms and hospitalization. The sooner these treatments are started the better.



The following medicines are *taken by mouth* and should be started *within 5 days* of developing symptoms. A new [Test to Treat](#) program allows people to go to participating pharmacies and clinics to get tested and, if positive, receive these medicines at the same visit. To find a Test to Treat location or learn more, visit [ph.lacounty.gov/covidmedicines](https://ph.lacounty.gov/covidmedicines).

- **Paxlovid** (antiviral) – for people age 12 and older who weigh at least 88 pounds
- **Molnupiravir**\* (antiviral) – for adults age 18 and over. Not recommended for use during pregnancy.



The following medicines are given *intravenously (into a vein)* and should be started *within 7 days* of developing symptoms.

- **Bebtelovimab**\* (monoclonal antibody) – for people age 12 and older who weigh at least 88 pounds
- **Remdesivir** (antiviral) – for people of any age who weigh at least 8 pounds. Given once a day for 3 days.

\*These treatments are only recommended if other medications are not available.



# MEDICINES TO TREAT AND PREVENT COVID-19

## Medication to Prevent COVID-19

If you cannot receive a COVID-19 vaccine for medical reasons, or your immune system is not strong enough to mount a response to the vaccine, talk to your doctor about Evusheld, a medicine to **prevent** you from getting COVID-19. It must be given before you get COVID-19.



**Evusheld** (monoclonal antibody) - for anyone age 12 and older who weighs at least 88 pounds. Given as 2 injections into a muscle at a single visit.

**If you have questions about any COVID-19 medication contact your doctor.  
For more information and to find a location offering treatment,  
visit [ph.lacounty.gov/covidmedicines](https://ph.lacounty.gov/covidmedicines).**

**COVID-19 Treatments Are Not a Substitute for the COVID-19 Vaccine.  
Vaccines are safe, effective, free, and [widely available](#) throughout LA County. They  
can protect you and others from getting sick with COVID-19.**

± **[People who are at high risk](#) of getting very sick from COVID-19 include:**

- Adults age 65 and older

**People of any age with the following:**

- Cancer
- Chronic kidney, liver, or lung disease
- Cystic fibrosis
- Dementia or other neurological conditions
- Diabetes (type 1 or type 2)
- Disabilities
- Heart conditions
- HIV infection
- Weakened immune system
- Mental health conditions
- Overweight and obesity
- Physical inactivity
- Pregnancy
- Sickle cell disease or thalassemia
- Smoking, current or former
- Solid organ or blood stem cell transplant
- Stroke or cerebrovascular disease
- Substance use disorders
- Tuberculosis

*The list does not include all possible conditions.  
Speak with your provider if you think you might be at high risk.*